



**Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Southern District of Texas**

Donald J. DeGabrielle, Jr. • United States Attorney

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JOHN YEMBRICK

PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE

(713) 567-9388

**73-YEAR-OLD MAN SENTENCED TO 17 ½ YEARS FOR DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD
PORNOGRAPHY**

HOUSTON, TX – United States Attorney Donald J. DeGabrielle, Jr. announced today that Allen Edward McQuaid, age 73, was sentenced to 17 ½ years in federal prison for distributing images of child pornography using the Internet in December 2003.

McQuaid pleaded guilty to one count of the five-count indictment on December 22, 2005. He was also charged with three other counts of distribution and one-count of possession of several thousand images of child pornography found on his computer in Houston, Texas, in May 2005. United States District Judge Sim Lake sentenced McQuaid to 210 months in federal prison, without parole, followed by life-time supervised release, and a \$100 special assessment.

As part of the supervised release term, which commences after his release from federal prison, the defendant must report to a federal probation officer, undergo counseling, register as a sex offender, have no contact with children under the age of 18, not possess any sexually stimulating materials, including pictures of children, no online computer service access or use of a computer with access to the Internet, and he cannot possess any software that allows access to the Internet.

The defendant has been in federal custody without bond since his arrest on October 20, 2005, in Austin, Texas.

The maximum sentence McQuaid faced was 20 years imprisonment as well as a \$250,000 fine, \$100 special assessment and any term of years up to life of supervised release.

The conviction is the result of an investigation conducted by the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. This case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Martha Minnis.

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